

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bread Ministry, 2 May  
11:30 AM- 1:00 PM,  
Abby Reinke Center\*



Med Battalion Change of Command  
CAPT Desimone & CDR Eby

## A Note from the Commanding Officer

# SPRING AND SUMMER BRING CHANGES

This is our initial regimental newsletter since we deployed elements of the regiment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 05-07. As

such, this newsletter will provide "news" regarding both our deployed personnel and our personnel here in the United States. To the family members of our Marines and Sailors from Camp Lejeune, Okinawa, various reserve units, and Medical Treatment Facilities from throughout the United States, welcome to the Combat Logistics Regiment 15 (CLR 15) family.

For family members of our deployed personnel, I know that this is a difficult

summer move season rapidly approaches.

Two final thoughts. First, remember that you are not alone in this deployment. Unit leadership is available and our Key Volunteer Network remains poised to assist as do our unit Chaplains. Second, in addition to this newsletter, additional updates are provided on activities of our deployed Marines and Sailors via the CLR 15 Forward updates and our CLR 15 website. Semper Fidelis.

**Col Charles Hudson**  
Commanding Officer, CLR-15

## Chaplain's Corner

# HONOR AND MEMORIAL

The opportunity to serve once again with Marines is indeed an honor for my wife Kate and me. Most recently, we have been with the 13th MEU (SOC) and had a most meaningful ministry.

Prior to that, we were with the USN Submarine Force. They were a great seven years, as were the three years with 5th Battalion, 11th Marines back in 1986. After completing the tour with 5/11 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center 29 Palms, CA, we anticipated seeing another Fleet Marine Force assignment in the near future. It would take awhile, because we were called to a carrier, a destroyer squadron, chapel, two tenders, and submarine commands. All of those experiences were rewarding and, now we are back with Marines. After many years it has happened and we are most privileged and pleased to now be a part of CLR 15.

The month of May brings to mind the words

Cont, see "Honor," Page 4

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time and I am sure that each of you is counting the days until your loved one returns to you. You will be happy to know that the forward deployed Headquarters is already beginning to think about the manner in which we will redeploy your family member home. Likewise, those who are deploying for the second rotation are busy conducting pre-deployment training in order to better prepare themselves for the missions they will be assigned when deployed.

As you know, Spring is a time for change. 21 April saw 1st Medical Battalion change leadership when Commander Mike Eby assumed the helm from Captain Paul DeSimone. Sergeant Major Taylor and I will depart the regiment during June. Other changes will occur as well as the annual

## UPCOMING EVENTS, cont.

- Food Ministry, 3 May  
4:00 PM- 6:00 PM,  
MOM Warehouse\*
- Mothers' Day, 14 May
- Bread Ministry, 16  
May 11:30 AM- 1:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Food Ministry, 17  
May 11:00 AM- 6:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Memorial Day '96, 27-  
30 May
- Bread Ministry, 6  
June 11:30 AM- 1:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Food Ministry, 7 June  
4:00 PM- 6:00 PM,  
MOM Warehouse\*
- Fathers' Day, 19 June
- Bread Ministry, 20  
June 11:30 AM- 1:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Food Ministry, 21  
June 11:00 AM- 6:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Independence Day  
'96, 1-4 July
- Independence Day, 4  
July
- Bread Ministry, July\*
- Food Ministry, July\*
- Bread Ministry, 18  
July 11:30 AM- 1:00  
PM, Abby Reinke  
Center\*
- Food Ministry, 19 July  
11:00 AM- 6:00 PM,  
Abby Reinke Center\*

\*For more information on the bread and food ministries, please call (760) 908-7043



## A Note from the Sergeant Major

# SERGEANT MAJOR TAYLOR RETIRES

Wow, time is flying by and before you know it some of our Marines and Sailors will be headed home. That also means others will be headed out as well and the whole deployment cycle starts again.

I really want to thank each and every one of you for the sacrifices that you have made for our Country, Corps and Naval Services. Without your sacrifice none of what our Marines and Sailors do could ever happen. You make the difference and what a difference you make. Know that you are special and know that the American people are grateful as well.

I will be leaving the Corps soon after 30 years and there has truly never been a better time to be a Marine or Sailor. Our Marines and Sailors do a phenomenal job wherever they go and thousands have been touched by their

efforts and their lives have been made better by what they do so well.

Be proud of your Marine or Sailor, continue to support their efforts in every way and know that your sacrifice is not going unnoticed by the world. You are the glue that holds it all together and your letters and e-mails enable our CLR-15 family to do all those great things.

Keep up the great work and may your homecoming be joyous. For those who are preparing to send your loved ones in harms way, may you find strength in those around you and work with the KVN to make it a great deployment. I certainly can't thank you enough.

Oohrah!! **Sergeant Major Taylor** out.  
Sergeant Major, CLR-15

## A Note from CLC-133

# TRAINING MARINES AND SAILORS

Greetings from MCAS Yuma, Arizona. I am 1stLt Joshua Sperling, the Officer in Charge for Combat Logistics Company 16- formerly known as Combat Service Support Company 133 and Combat Service Support Detachment 16. Currently, we have 18 members of our Command attached to various elements within Combat Logistics Regiment 15 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. We are a small detachment, normally not exceeding 65 personnel at full strength, established aboard MCAS Yuma to represent the forward support capability of the 1st Marine Logistics Group to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing.

Our primary mission is to support a semi-annual exercise called Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI). A good comparison of what this course is designed to accomplish is 'Top Gun' for the Marine Corps. This course is currently in full swing and we have been playing a huge role in maintenance, transportation of fuel and water, and supply materials requisitioning and fiscal management for over 13 supported units. To accomplish this, we have been augmented with over 100 Marines from various units throughout the MLG. Our higher headquarters, CLR-15, facilitated this

augmentation during the initial planning phases of WTI.

This event is just one training evolution that personnel from our Company are involved with each calendar year. We treat each event as a tool to sharpen Marines and Sailors to better prepare them for continuing operations outside the boundaries of our great nation. I hear word from Iraq via our Commanding Officer, Major Charles Sides, that our Marines are performing expertly and are in good health. This is definitely a reflection of the continuing training that your Marines and Sailors receive prior to deployments.

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the families of these outstanding servicemen and women for the sacrifices they make on our behalf. You spend many weeks away from us during these training evolutions and many months after that during deployments. But, you are the strength and stability that enables these Marines and Sailors to press on and work so hard to achieve what so few in this world can. Again, thank you and God bless.

**1stLt Joshua Sperling**  
Officer in Charge, CLC-133

## A Note from Headquarters Company

# TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FUTURE BRIEFS

Since our last newsletter, many of you have had to experience, some for the first time, what it feels like to be without your Marine or Sailor. You have had to be both mom and dad to the kids, be the car mechanic, the plumber, and even the dreaded financial bookkeeper. I wanted to pass on a sincere "Thank you" for the many sacrifices you and your families make on a daily basis. Without your tremendous support, your Marine or Sailor would not be able to do the fantastic jobs that they are doing for CLR-15 (FWD) and the 1st MLG. You should be very proud of your Marine or Sailor because without their service our country would not enjoy the freedoms that many take for granted.

The good news is that your loved ones will be returning home to you real soon. In order to help facilitate your homecoming, Headquarters Company will have a Return and Reunion Brief. The date and time of this brief will be passed through the KVN channels. This brief is intended to help with the adjustment process associated with having your Marine or Sailor back home. You might be asking, "What adjustment process?" Well after being the person who made ALL of the decisions for 6 or 7 months it may not be

as easy as one would think to step back into sharing the decision process. This brief is intended to give you some helpful hints on how to handle these types of issues. We are certain that the brief will be helpful to you and your loved one and we look forward to seeing you there.

For the families who are helping their Marine or Sailor prepare for the upcoming deployment rotation, please know that Headquarters Company will be here to support you every step of the way while they are gone. There will also be a Pre-deployment brief for the Marines and Sailors and their spouses. This brief will provide you and your loved ones with some helpful tools that can assist you in making this deployment cycle as stress free as possible. The date and time of this brief will also be passed through the KVN.

Finally, should you require any assistance while your Marine or Sailor is gone or prior to their deployment please feel free to contact me. I would be happy to help! God Bless you and Semper Fidelis!

**Capt Richard Garcia**  
Commanding Officer, Headquarters Company

## A Note from CLC-134

# NEW NAME; MORE TRAINING UNDERWAY

You are probably unaware that our company has a new name. Starting in April, instead of CSSC 134; we are CLC 11. This doesn't change our support at Miramar or to our families of our deployable Marines. We're still in the same place with the same numbers.

I hope everyone's Easter was pleasant and enjoyable. We're almost half way through the deployment and I wanted to congratulate PFC Kapp and Cook who were promoted to LCpl in Iraq. There are pictures for you to see of your significant others on the CLR-15 website. Due to technical difficulties, our command website is being attended to. I apologize for the inconvenience. I would like to welcome Sgt Lopez and his family to the company and to Miramar. I hope to see you all soon. Please don't hesitate to call the company or our Key Volunteer Coordinator, Mrs Nereida Cadle, for any questions or concerns.

We just recently completed supporting WTI in April. Our Marines did an outstanding job out there and will get much-deserved time off. I would also like to congratulate Sgt Martinez, Cpl Taay, Cpl Vaughn, Cpl Bello, and Cpl Bledsoe who graduated from the Sergeants Course and Corporals Course; respectively. Moreover, we have Marines completing the Rear Area Security Course in Camp Pendleton and Enhanced Marksmanship training coming in May. So, we're preparing for this next rotation and our Marines will be ready. I appreciate your understanding and support of your Marines while they go through these courses and training. Without you, we wouldn't be able to do our job. Thank you!

**Capt Gabriel Perez**  
Commanding Officer, CLC-134

## FYI

- **The CLR-15 Key Volunteer Network Website** is accessed through the following website address: <http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/msc/1mlg/KVN/deployed/cssg15deployed.html>. Expect to see the website's format change soon. While the appearance will be different, it is still CLR-15's KVN Website and will contain the same information as before.
- The **1st MLG Website** can be viewed at <http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/msc/1mlg/>.
- To see the **1st MLG organizational chart**, go to the 1st MLG Website listed above and click on "Here" at the bottom left of the page.
- **Thank you** to the following who have made donations that CLR-15 Marines and Sailors received: **North Coast Calvary Chapel** for hosting a military spouse appreciation luncheon & Easter supplies. **Solana Beach Presbyterian Church** for donating goodie bags with cookie ingredients, cocoa & mocha mix. **Anonymous** donation of Blue's Clues books. **Anonymous** donation of neck warmers. **Stater Brothers** grocery store for 2006 calendars.
- **Deployed Mailing Addresses:** Mailing addresses are posted on CLR-15's website. You will need to know your Marine or Sailor's unit. If you are unsure about the unit or address, contact your KV or Command.
- See the website for the **CLR-15 KVC Update**. If you would like a copy emailed to you, contact Mrs. Galvez at [Suvorov1@cox.net](mailto:Suvorov1@cox.net)



## **DEPLOYED MAILING ADDRESSES**

### **Headquarters Co:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLR 15 H&S CO  
UNIT 42490  
FPO AP 96426-2490

### **Maintenance Co:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLR 15 MAINT CO  
UNIT 42285  
FPO AP 96426-2285

### **"B" Military Police Co:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLR 15 MP CO  
UNIT 42165  
FPO AP 96426-2165

### **Supply Co:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLR 15 SUP CO  
UNIT 42160  
FPO AP 96426-2160

### **Transportation**

#### **Support Co:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLR 15 TRANS CO  
UNIT 42145  
FPO AP 96426-2145

***Some of our Supply & Maintenance Marines are located at other sites- here are those addresses:***

### **Camp Fallujah:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLB 5 HQ CO  
UNIT 42205  
FPO AP 96426-2205

### **Camp Fallujah:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLB 5 MAINT CO  
UNIT 42445  
FPO AP 96426-2445

### **Camp Al Asad:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
CLB 7 HQ CO  
UNIT 41740  
FPO AP 96426-1740

## **HONOR**

*Cont from Page 1*

"honor" and "memorial". According to Merriam-Webster, "honor" is: "a showing of... merited respect... one whose worth brings respect or fame." "Memorial" is: "serving to preserve remembrance... commemorative."

Mothers and grandmothers are honored for their sacrificial love given to their families. Be sure to send a card or make a phone call to express your appreciation for all they have done. As May 14 approaches, may God bless all mothers and grandmothers this day and everyday.

Memorial Day began in the 1860's as a time to remember and honor those who have fallen in service to this great Republic. The "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed in December of 2000.

This resolution encourages Americans to pause at 3 P.M. on Memorial Day to "remember and reflect on the sacrifices made by so many to provide freedom for all." Those who have made the ultimate sacrifice are truly heroes, "who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!"

If you are interested in spiritual development, or looking for an effective way to manage the challenges that we face daily, please consider the CLR 15 Religious Ministry Team. RP3 Troisi and I are concerned with the "spiritual element" especially when it relates to quality of life issues. We invite you to contact us anytime.

**Chaplain Jensen**  
CLR-15

## **A Note from 1st Medical Battalion**

# **FAREWELL TO DESIMONES; CDR EBY NEW COMMANDING OFFICER**

On April 21st, 2006, Captain Paul M. DeSimone relinquished command to me. I am honored to have worked the past 2 years as the Family Readiness Officer. Our KVN team is diligently assisting families of Marines and Sailors deployed to 6 surgical units operating in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. As CAPT DeSimone and his bride Stephanie (KVA) depart for Marine Forces Command we all wish them the best in their new assignment.

During his 3-year tenure, he provided genuine care and concern for all families throughout 4 successful deployments to OIF. Their impact on the family readiness program has had a long lasting impact.

On April 8th, 2006, 1st Medical Battalion had their annual Family Day Picnic at Lake O'Neil, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. I was delighted to meet all the wonderful families of our Sailors and Marines. Many of you enjoyed our several activities, one of the favorites was, pie in the face. Several individuals took advantage of having the opportunity to put a pie in the faces of the Battalion Sergeant Major, the Command Master Chief, and the H&S Company Commander. I especially liked watching the parent/child three-legged race and the sack race. The highlight of the event was having HOT JAMZ 92.3 FM playing music. This had everyone singing the tunes of

their favorite songs. Our static display of one FRSS and STP, set up by Bravo Health Services Company, allowed our families to see first hand what our medical capabilities are in the field. I had a wonderful time and I hope to see all of you at our next Family Day.

My wife, Brenda, and I are honored to be part of 1st Medical Battalion. We will continue to be impressed with the selfless spirit of the Key Volunteers as they are an integral part of our deployment success. If you are interested in becoming a Key Volunteer, please contact Monica Schutt at (760) 726-7937; we would love to have you on our team.

### **CDR Michael Eby**

Commanding Officer, 1st Medical Battalion



**Stephanie, Alexandria and CAPT Desimone**

## JOIN THE KEY VOLUNTEER NETWORK!

Greetings, from Supply Battalion. There have been quite a few changes since the last newsletter due to the recent deployment of our Marines and Sailors to OIF 5-7. First, let me introduce myself. I am LtCol Robinson, the new commanding officer for Supply Battalion.

There have been a few other things that have happened since the last newsletter so, I would like to take the time to bring you up to speed. On January 24, I assumed command from LtCol Lloyd who has deployed forward to Iraq as the I MEF Liaison Officer for Corp Support Command (COSCOM). Approximately, 382 of our Marines and Sailors have deployed in support of OIF, as CLR-15 (FWD), during the month of February. Our Battalion Executive Officer, Maj Applewhite, has moved down to the Supply Management Unit (SMU) and is also the Company Commander of Material Management Company. The recent deployment has brought about shortages in personnel across the Battalion here in the rear, but we continue to push forward and provide the required supply support to I MEF.

The spring season is now upon us, so we continue to conduct pre-deployment training for our second rotation that will begin deploying in August. As we move into the summer months, we will begin to see a big influx of personnel. Some will be receiving PCS orders and checking out, while many will be checking-in. By summers end, we will have

all our Marines and Sailors trained and boarding planes to deploy forward. We will also have many to greet as they are returning back from Iraq. This summer will keep us very busy!

I would like to remind everyone that we need to continue to support our Key Volunteer Network (KVN). Major Applewhite will continue his duties as the Family Readiness Officer and Lt Rozik will assist him in that effort since we are spread thin. We have been fortunate to maintain Bonnie Tucker as our Key Volunteer Coordinator and Debbie Lloyd as our Key Volunteer Advisor. Both are doing a spectacular job with our network. As our Marines and Sailors come and go we will need all the help we can get. Your assistance in the Key Volunteer Network helps us support our service members and their families while they are deployed. I need volunteers so that the program can continue to provide the outstanding support to our Marines and Sailors and their families. I would like to invite those who are interested to a Key Volunteer luncheon that we will be having in the month of May, details to follow in separate correspondence. If you are interested in joining the KVN or would like to know more information please contact Bonnie Tucker at (760) 806-6623 or Debbie Lloyd at (760) 385-9754. Semper Fi.

**LtCol Macon Robinson**  
Commanding Officer, 1st Supply Battalion

### **Camp Arifjan, Kuwait:**

(RANK) (NAME)  
I MLG HQ CO DET K  
UNIT 42182  
FPO AP 96426-2182

### **Medical Battalion**

(RANK) (NAME)  
A HSC HQ  
UNIT 42125  
FPO AP 96426-2125

(RANK) (NAME)  
A HSC DET A  
UNIT 42126  
FPO AP 96426-2126

(RANK) (NAME)  
A HSC DET K  
UNIT 42127  
FPO AP 96426-2127

(RANK) (NAME)  
C HSC HQ  
UNIT 42135  
FPO AP 96426-2135

(RANK) (NAME)  
C HSC DET F  
UNIT 42136  
FPO AP 96426-2136

(RANK) (NAME)  
C HSC DET R  
UNIT 42137  
FPO AP 96426-2137

## FORWARD MILESTONES

**Congratulations** to the following CLR-15 Forward Marines **promoted during March/April** to the rank indicated:

### **H&S Co:**

LCpl Devin A. Cook, LCpl Christopher B. Kapp, LCpl Zachary E. Kelly, LCpl Robert A. Milbrath, Sgt Pedro A. Ventura, Jr., PFC Taylor M. West, LCpl Luke J. Terechin, Cpl Robert J. Medina, Cpl Daniel A. Perez, Sgt Gilbert A. Diaz.

### **Maint Co:**

LCpl Luke V. Aquino, Cpl Eric Zamora, Cpl Joe A. Montez, Sgt Christopher J. Davis, GySgt Anthony J. Morrow, GySgt Richard E. Garcia, Cpl Henry V. Betancourt, Cpl Matthew A. Glover, Cpl Kelsey S. Marshall, Cpl Ryan E. Miller, Cpl Scott C. Preston, Cpl

Mariela Soto, Sgt Garet A. Marchington, SSgt Anthony M. Ward.

### **MP Co:**

LCpl Bryan A. McIntee, LCpl Jared M. Moomaw, LCpl Jacob S. Navarro, LCpl Justin W. Westbrook, Cpl Richard B. Baldwin, Cpl Charles A. Garrett, Cpl Joel Marrero, Cpl Jonathan R. Mogollon, Cpl Michael A. Ortega, Sgt Ronnie Wilson Jr.

### **Supply Co:**

LCpl Jereme L. Morris, LCpl Jonathan T. Reynolds, LCpl Krysthia A. Delacruzutiaga, LCpl Robert V. Crutchfield, LCpl Dom Chap, LCpl Eric J. Blackshear, Cpl Sean D. Williams, Cpl Malina Lenard, Cpl Shaun M. Heath, Cpl Richard S. Geronimo, PFC Jason K. Mooneyham, LCpl Crystal D. Campbell,

Cpl Lucille P. Austin, Cpl Sergio E. Bravo Jr., Cpl Richard D. Carrigan, Cpl Ryan A. Militante, Mayra N. Rojas, Cpl Skyler L. Williams.

### **TS Co:**

LCpl Kevin M. Fossati, LCpl Jason E. Davis, LCpl Juan Duron, LCpl Grayson C. Burt, Cpl Anddrea J. Wates, Cpl Dietrich A. Slac, Cpl Ricardo Robles, Cpl Paul E. Gonzalez, Jr., LCpl Nicholas H. Bachelder, LCpl Serena Y. Chan, LCpl Steven B. Pinkston, Cpl Jamie M. Braddy, Cpl Todd E. Bruck, Cpl Nicole M. Cullop, Cpl Jeremy A. Edwards, Cpl Chance J. Larsen, Cpl Matthew S. Odom, Cpl Corey D. Peebles, Cpl Elvis Reyesbarajas, Sgt Kenneth A. Berven, Sgt Jacob F. Dain, Sgt Orlando Fontanez, Sgt Christopher M. Scott, SSgt Jeremy B. Worley.



## **A Note from 1st Maintenance Battalion**

# **GREAT EASTER PARTY; NEW POINTS OF CONTACT**

Greetings from 1st Maintenance Battalion Rear. I hope everyone had a pleasant Easter and enjoyed the opportunity to relax and enjoy the holidays with friends and family. Thanks to the battalion Key Volunteers for organizing a very nice Easter party on the 8th. Between the gift baskets, piñatas, and hundreds of Easter eggs, all the kids left the party tired and with full stomachs.



The last four months have been extremely hectic. In January we had an extremely successful Family Pre-Deployment Brief at the SNCO Club, and the next two months were extremely busy for all involved in ensuring the deploying Marines completed their pre-deployment training with sufficient time to take leave prior to departure. Amidst it all, the outbound flights to Iraq became our number one priority, ensuring all personnel and equipment got out on schedule. While working crazy hours getting our deployed Marines out the door, our remain behind Maintenance Marines continued their daily routines, with significantly less personnel, and completed over 2000 equipment repair orders on badly worn equipment, which will enable the MEF to continue to train for months to come. Additionally, Motor Transport Company completed the arduous task of

outfitting nearly 400 transport vehicles, primarily HMMWVs, with up armor protection against IED threats (MAK armor). Fortunately, we had several holidays to break the work routine to include New Years, MLK, President's Day, and a gratefully unexpected break for Easter.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I assumed the billet as the Officer in Charge, 1st Maintenance Bn when LtCol Granata deployed to Iraq in February. Also, I continue with my original responsibility as Family Readiness Officer. Unfortunately, I have PCS orders for the end of May; and after I leave, Maj Estep will assume the helm. The new Command structure and key points of contact are:

OIC, 1st Maintenance Bn .....	Major Tim Silkowski.....	725-3148
	Maj Estep (end of May) .....	763-5276
Chaplain .....	LT Tom Cook.....	725-4001
Key Volunteer Coordinator .....	Rene' Granata .....	385-4059
H&S Company Commander.....	Capt Melissa Johnson .....	725-3669
RMC Officer in Charge .....	Capt Paul Zacharzuk .....	725-4450
MTM Commanding Officer .....	Capt Adrian Chambers.....	725-2110
EMC Commanding Officer .....	CWO4 Richard Krout.....	725-3948
OMC Commanding Officer .....	Capt Jason Lacis.....	725-4438
	Capt Gomez (mid May)	

Finally, the Key Volunteer Network (KVN) continues to actively support our Battalion as they also prepare for the second rotation to Iraq. If you are interested in joining the KVN or being added to the contact roster to receive information, please contact 1st Maintenance Battalion's Key Volunteer Coordinator Rene' Granata at (760) 385-4059 or send her an e-mail at [rgranata@cox.net](mailto:rgranata@cox.net). Semper Fidelis.

**Maj Tim Silkowski**  
Officer in Charge, 1st Maintenance Battalion



**CLR-15 Sergeant Major****CHARLIE DANIELS BAND PERFORMS AT TQ**

Hello Everyone! The workload hasn't changed very much here. Still convoys delivering support on a daily basis and everything imaginable that can be broken is constantly being fixed. Our job of providing the support to the "Grunt on the Ground" is still the primary mission, and all of our Marines are doing a fantastic job of it.

What a great day we had on Easter Sunday. It started with a Sunrise Service down by the lake. A few of our Maint Co Marines built the Crosses and set them up. Then we went down there before dawn and there was a big full moon. There is one lone palm tree there, and the crosses were set up near the tree. So if you were standing in the right place, the moon was above the palm tree with the reflection off the lake coming under the palm branches, it was a beautiful sight! No one that I'm aware of was able to get a good picture of it though due to the darkness. Then we had the Easter Service after breakfast, followed by about a



6th Motor Transport's SSgt Holder with Charlie Daniels

dozen baptisms, and then a BBQ. The evening meal at the chow hall was quite a feast. Roast beef, turkey and ham with mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, and veggies. Nearly every dessert you could think of from pies and cakes to cookies and ice cream. The last event of the day was the Charlie Daniels Band in Iraq for a "Support the Troops" tour. I've never had the chance to see him before, although I've grown up liking his music, so that was something neat. He has really become vocal with his beliefs, and one of the numbers he sang was "How Great Thou Art", executed of course in true CDB style.

We have a not so enjoyable event to conduct this week, a memorial service for one of our own that was killed in a vehicle accident. Make sure please that you send up your

prayers for the family, friends, and Marines that must now grieve and then move forward with their loss.

We will keep charging forward out here, so please keep the fires warm back there. God Bless You! GB&SF!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SgtMaj T.P. Lamar  
Sergeant Major, CLR-15 Forward

**CLR-15 MP Company****NEW TENANTS EVICTED!**

Greetings from Military Police Company (MP Co). We got a late start with CLR-15 since we didn't arrive until mid-March. The bulk of our company consists of Marines and Sailors from Camp Lejeune but the rest come from the other CLR-15 companies. You may recognize your husband in some of our photos, even though he isn't an MP at home. MP Co provides security for CLR-15 logistics convoys and we also conduct customs and agriculture clearance inspections for gear that is returning to the states. My personal goal is to ensure that your Marine or sailor returns home safely.

I've included a couple photos, which can be viewed on the CLR-15 website. One is of some of the Marines from MP Co with the Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. The second photo is of a pineapple-sized swarm of bees that decided that they too wanted to live on the MP compound. They were quickly 'evicted'. As a final note, our company KVC at Camp Lejeune is Mrs. Elisha Beck. She has done a great job of keeping our families informed. Her e-mail is [debeck6@earthlink.net](mailto:debeck6@earthlink.net). Semper Fidelis.

**Capt Gillingham**  
Commanding Officer, Military Police Company

**CLR-15 H&S Company****COMMANDANT VISITS**

Greetings to all the families and loved ones back home!! Please rest assured that your Marine or Sailor is being well taken care of. The pace has picked up and the missions are being accomplished thanks to the expertise of your loved ones. The accommodations here in Al Taqaddum are the best considering the geographical location; MWR has provided a gym and recreational facility for your loved ones to enjoy. Many more projects are in the works to keep the Marines and Sailors in H&S Company motivated. Moral is high and the days are flying!!!! God bless and Semper Fidelis!!!!

**1stSgt Gamboa**  
CLR-15 Forward H&S Company



**CLB-5 Maintenance Company****MAINTAINING A SLICE OF HOME IN IRAQ**

Greetings again from Iraq. We are now, for the most part, two months through our deployment and everybody is doing fine. If you didn't already know, the Maintenance Company is comprised of Marines from fifteen different units, from all three Marine Expeditionary Forces and the Reserves. We have Marines from Camp Pendleton, 29 Palms, Camp Lejeune and Okinawa, Japan. Although we have a diverse background, the Marines have come together as a very cohesive unit and have an enormous amount of pride in everything they do. Your Marines have been working very hard through some pretty lousy weather. As you already know, your Marines are extremely dedicated to putting forth their best efforts in all that they do and here in Iraq, it is business as usual.

A typical day here in Iraq normally starts with getting up around 5:00 a.m. for physical training (PT) or just getting ready to go to work. A normal workday will start at around 7:00 a.m. Throughout the day, the Marines attend various training events and work (they work very hard all day, everyday). The workday is scheduled to end around 7:30 p.m., but often times various sections and platoons work until 11:30 p.m. This is the routine in normal Monday through Saturday. Sunday, we try to let the Marine sleep in or have personal time in the morning and give them an opportunity to attend religious services. These hours, in these weather conditions are very demanding... yet your Marines continue to perform magnificently. I am so proud of them and their accomplishments everyday, as I'm sure you are. They are all great Americans!

Although the Marines are extremely busy providing maintenance support to units operating here in Iraq, they still find time to do some of the things they do at home. Just as the Marines do back in the states, we celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, promotions, reenlistments, etc. These celebrations are important and significant to the Marines. The experiences the Marines share here with fellow Marines will last a lifetime. These memories are both bitter and sweet. As the Marines achieve and attain these expected and anticipated goals, they are excited and proud, but are reminded of those loved ones back in the states that are unable to share these moments with them. We as Marines, attempt to replicate the things that we have and what we do in the states in order to keep "a slice of home" in our thoughts. We all appreciate your unwavering and continuing support. Semper Fidelis

**Capt Sean J. Collins**  
Commanding Officer, CLB-5 Maint Co

**CLR-15 Supply Company****SUPPLY COMPANY CONTINUES TO IMPRESS**

Our first month is complete and we are well on our way to a successful deployment. The Marines and Sailors are doing a phenomenal job and I could not be prouder of their accomplishments. If you could see the results of their hard work, you would be impressed. They have risen to the occasion and are not fazed by any challenges. This is a tremendous group of Marines and Sailors.

I would like to welcome the families of Ammunition Company as the Supply Company now includes the Marines running the Ammunition Supply Point. I would also like to welcome the families from III MEF. It was a pleasant surprise to receive these Supply Marines and they have integrated into the Company in fine fashion.

We could not accomplish our mission without your support. Thank you for the letters, emails, notes, and packages to your Marine or Sailor. Their spirits are high and it is attributable to you.

Time continues to go by very fast and everyone has quickly settled into a routine. We are stressing the importance of safety to everyone and are working extremely hard to ensure everyone returns safely.

The Marines and Sailors continue to amaze me everyday. It is a privilege to watch them in action. Everyone is doing great and we miss you all.

**Major K. J. Stewart**  
Commanding Officer, CLR-15 Supply Company



**CLR-15 Maintenance Company****MARINES LET HAIR DOWN AND ENJOY BBQ**

Time flies when you're having fun, well, we might not be having that much fun all the time, but time is quickly passing us by. I couldn't ask for better Marines, they are outstanding in everything they do! They continue to amaze me in their professionalism, performance, and attitude. We are definitely the best company in the Corps. I couldn't be more proud of these Marines and I thank you, family and friends and the KVN, for your support.

For over two months now the Marines of 1st Maintenance Company have made tremendous improvements in their work and living areas. Maintenance production has increased and continues to improve daily. Back orders for Secondary Repairables has decreased to an all time low of 48. The Marines have been putting in 12-16 hour days to support all units in Iraq and it shows.

1st Maintenance Company's first BBQ on 9 April was a complete success. We had been here for almost two months without any time off; the 1stSgt and I felt we needed to give the Marines an opportunity to let their hair down and relax. Well, we did just that and had a great BBQ with Softball, Volleyball, some Football, and Card Playing. The music system wasn't the best, but I think the Marines adapted with conversation. The food was delicious; provided by KBR and cooked by CWO4 McAllister, GySgt Rosario, and Joe Elmore (LSI). Half a dozen picnic tables were set up and some shade was provided by camouflage netting. Coolers were full of cold soda, water and near beer.

Thanks again for your support of these outstanding Marines and continued motivation throughout this deployment. God bless you and yours! Semper Fidelis!

**Maj Mark Birk**

Commanding Officer, CLR-15 Maintenance Company

Maint  
Company  
BBQ

**CLR-15 Transportation Company****GENERAL ZILMER VISITS 4TH PLATOON**

We are already in our second month of the deployment, and time is cruising by, most likely because we have been keeping busy. Along with our daily convoys to camps around the area, we have stayed active at the airfields in Iraq and Kuwait, and also on the various lots on this base with our forklifts and cranes. Additionally, our maintenance and recovery Marines have been assisting 9th Engineer Support Battalion with their route clearance and road repair missions. Doing the simple things out here can be difficult, including driving on Iraq's degraded roads with our heavy trucks. But as always, your Marines and sailors meet each challenge with their characteristic enthusiasm, motivation, and professionalism.

The weather remains cool, and we have had our share of rain recently. There was even lightning and thunder, which is a rare occurrence here. Our days of enjoying the pleasant weather are numbered, because as soon as it gets scorching hot, it is going to stay that way until we leave.

Our living conditions and facilities are very comfortable, and the chow hall is superb. It is nice to be able to run our missions outside the base and then return "home," where significant and steady improvements have occurred these past two years, making TQ more habitable than we would have at first imagined.

Our commanding general, Major General Zilmer, visited with 4th Platoon in March and spent some time talking to the Marines. We were also visited by his deputy, Brigadier General Neller. Both were very interested in what we do for a living, and it was a great opportunity to meet them both.

Thank you for all the mail, support, and prayers. Please keep them coming, as we could not do this without you.

**Maj Maria J. Pallotta**

Commanding Officer, Transportation Company